NATIXIS & Scality

Financial Services

The international corporate, investment, insurance and financial services arm of Groupe BPCE, Natixis, serves customers across the company's three main business lines: Corporate & Investment Banking, Investment Solutions & Insurance, and Specialized Financial Services. The amount of data generated—and retained, due to business needs and regulatory requirements—is massive and, in 2015, they began looking for a way to streamline their data retention strategy, and found Scality RING. That was petabytes ago: the Natixis RING keeps growing.

Compatibility

Natixis wanted to continue using their existing backup software, with Scality RING as the backup target. Scality's tested compatibility with IBM Spectrum Protect using its native file interface. Fast-forward, as the installation grew and they added a Rubrik tier, that was an easy fit, too, using the S3 object interface. Most recently, they're instituting an S3 service to offer to other lines of business within the company, and Scality RING's multi-itenancy features make that simple, too.

Reliability

Backup is really not about backup, it's about recovery—about the data being there when you need it. Thanks to RING's self-healing resiliency features, Scality maintains data, and its integrity, for the long-term, even through hardware failures.

Easy Scalability

Natixis needed a solution that would grow with their data. Scality RING brings the scalability to meet growing data volumes without compromising durability, performance or operations costs. And it works: since their initial installation in 2016, Natixis has seen two expansions of its RING storage, and sees more to come.

As a global financial services enterprise with over 16,000 staff in 38 countries, and a customer list that includes large corporations, other financial institutions and Groupe BCPE clients, it comes as no surprise that Natixis generates a lot of data. It also comes as no surprise that both good business practices and regulatory compliance are priorities for Natixis. Several years ago, they found that the size of their backups was straining their

their backups that would also provide the high durability that their business demanded and, at the same time, offer rapid data recovery and improved performance. This list of requirements led them to consider software-defined storage for their backup target; software-defined storage led them straight to Scality.

Natixis worked with Scality to set up a POC, which they completed quickly. They were able to see

Business Benefits

100% data recovery

30% better throughput than the previous solution

Low TCO

Storage consolidation for efficiency

"What drove us to Scality was the simplicity and efficiency of the solution. Its robustness means no accidents, no surprises."

Herve Baldeweck, Project Director, Backup, Natixis

legacy backup storage system. With petabyte-scale backups, the RAID-based storage system they were using was strained, and most definitely not meeting their requirements for reliability and ease of operation. Being a geographically distributed organization, with likewise distributed data, they needed more flexibility. As they evaluated their options for backup data storage, it quickly became apparent that it was time for a move to a scale-out storage architecture.

In 2015, growing, and, of course, planning to continue growing globally, Natixis started a search for cost-effective storage for

that Scality RING was well-integrated and worked smoothly with their backup solution, IBM Tivoli Storage Manager (TSM), and that the throughput met their needs quite well—in fact, in some of their tests they saw as much as 30% improvement in throughput vs their prior storage solution, bringing a nice bump-up in performance of their backup and restore operations.

Natixis started with a 2PB license for Scality RING on Cisco UCS 3260s servers, stretched across three sites. Scality's extremely efficient durability model allowed Natixis to protect their 2PB of backup data without full replications on a small footprint

of just 3.5PB of hardware, further adding to the TCO savings.

Change and Growth

It wasn't long before their first expansion. In fact, Natixis has expanded their backup footprint, easily and seamlessly, from that initial 2PB license on 3.5PB of hardware. They now protect a full 5PB of backups on 48 Cisco UCS 3260s with 8.7PB of hard disk space using IBM Spectrum Protect (the newer generation of IBM TSM).

Their overall backup strategy has evolved a little bit as well. Today, Natixis manages that 5PB backup differently. They now store one week's backups via Rubrik to Scality RING, thanks to the great integration between Rubrik and Scality RING via S3. Longer term backups still use the IBM Spectrum Protect and Scality RING solution. "Protecting the VMs is easier now using Rubrik," said Baldeweck. "We're 100% invested. All of our company-wide backups are stored in Scality RING."

Spinning up a Service

Scality RING's ease of use, flexibility, scalability, durability and low TCO inspired the infrastructure team to start a new project centered on Scality RING as well: they have recently launched a project to offer S3 object storage as a service to developers. "It can accommodate any S3 data, so developers can use it for their Splunk logs, filenet, elastic search—anything unstructured," added Baldeweck. "The high availability, flexibility and scalability make it possible for us to offer a really valuable service with Scality RING."

They started this part of their journey by adding a 570TB license in the summer of 2019 for their S3 as a Service offering, and it doesn't stop there. More services and more expansion are in their plans. "It's the simplicity, it's simple and efficient," concluded Baldeweck. "With Scality, we've had no accidents or downtime. It's a really robust solution."

Natixis Bank chose Scality RING for cost-effective backup storage with enterprise-grade durability, technical superiority to alternatives and flexible file and object interfaces. They chose, and continue to expand, their Scality RING software-defined storage because of its:

- Throughput

- Tight integration with their backup solution

- Exceptional support

- Scalability

- Future-proofing: flexible object and file interfaces

- Hardware-independence

Solution Components

Software-Defined Storage

- Scality RING
- SOFS/NFS and S3 interfaces for file and object
- 3-site stretched RING configuration
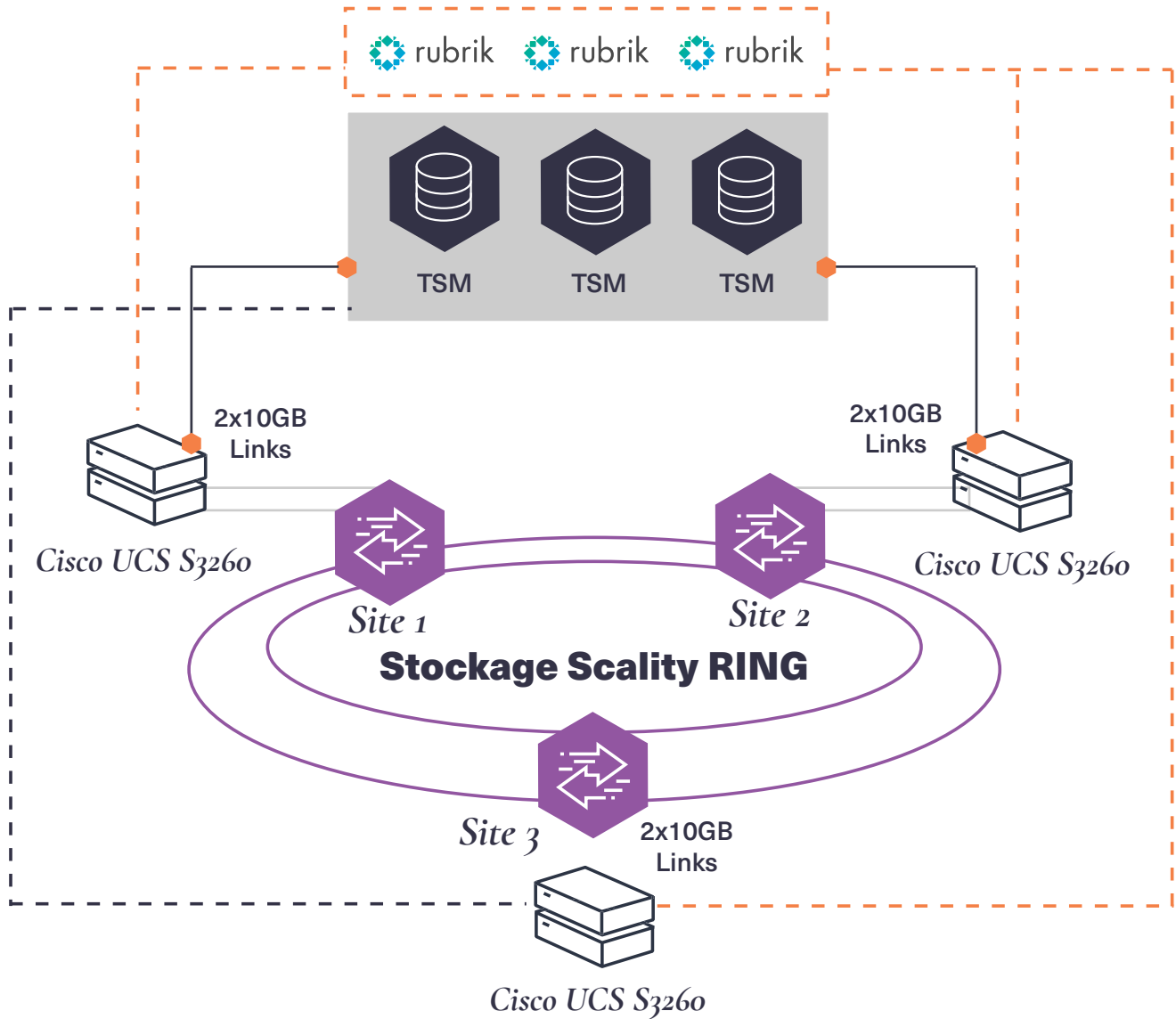- Second RING for S3 as a service

Hardware

- 48 Cisco UCS 3260s with 8.7PB RAW storage

Software

- IBM Spectrum Protect & Rubrik

Scality® storage propels companies to unify data management no matter where data lives — from edge to core to cloud. Our market-leading file and object storage software protects data on-premises and in hybrid and multi-cloud environments. With RING and ARTESCA, Scality's approach to managing data across the enterprise accelerates business insight for sound decision-making and maximum return on investment. To compete in a data-driven economy, IT leaders and application developers trust Scality to build sustainable, adaptable solutions. Scality is recognized as a leader by Gartner and IDC.

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